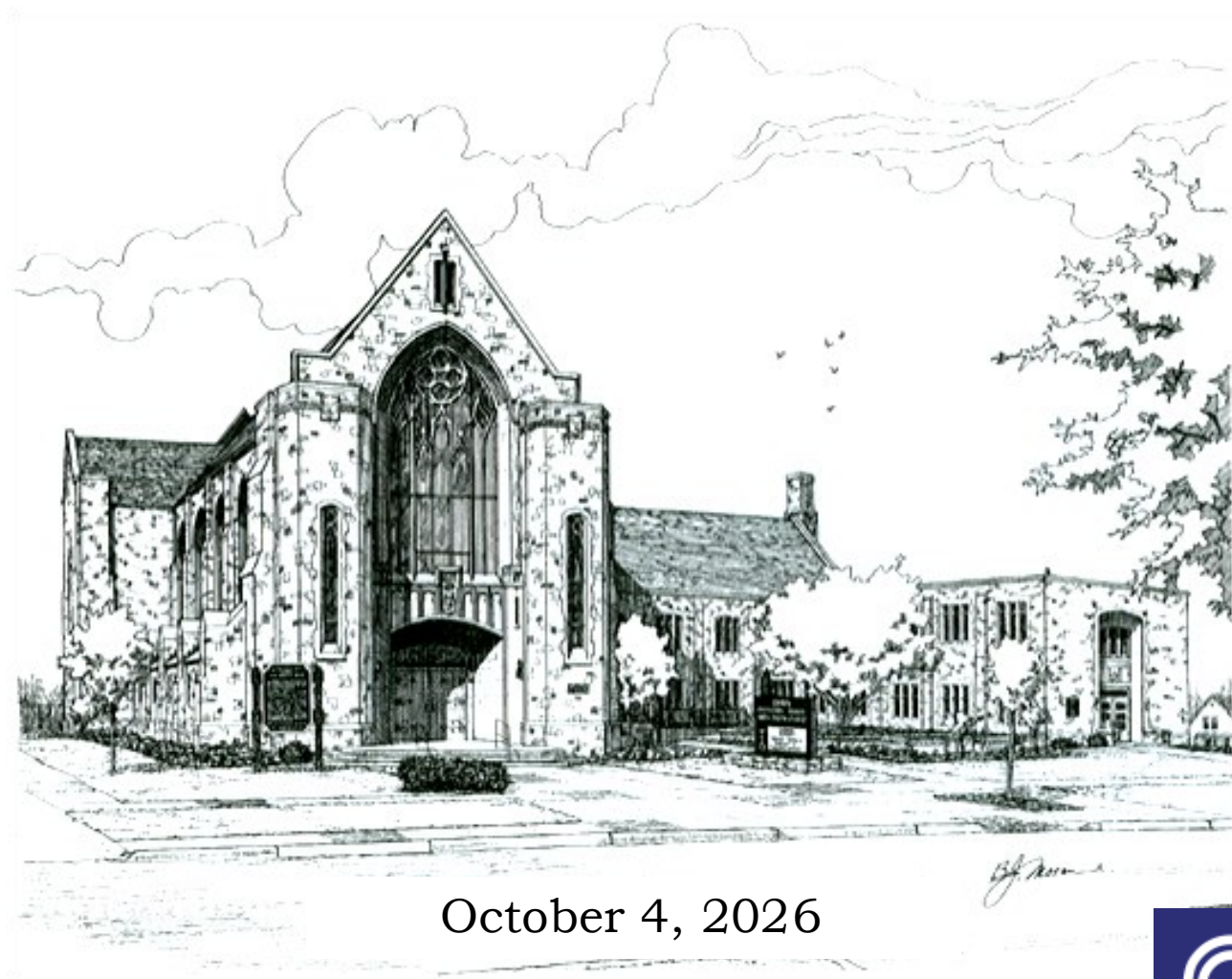


Union Congregational United Church of Christ



At Union, we are all the body of Christ together:
Through our voices, Christ is still speaking
Through our hands, Christ is still serving
Through our hearts, Christ is still loving



October 4, 2026

Our sanctuary is equipped with a hearing loop. You can access the loop by activating the T-coil in your hearing aid. If you do not have a T-coil, you can request a portable receiver from an usher.



Welcome to Union Church!

- Today's service is being live streamed via Facebook and YouTube.
- During the Children's Moments, the live stream will display a graphic, in order to protect our children's privacy.
- See an usher if you would like a children's activity packet or if you need help finding the nursery.
- Visitors are encouraged to fill out a visitor card at the usher's station or email office@unionucc.com to receive our weekly email newsletter.
- Visitors, if you would like more information about our church, please take home a yellow "Welcome to Union Church" folder located at either sanctuary door. If you have trouble finding them, ask one of our friendly members to help you locate one!
- We encourage those who are COVID positive or have cold or flu symptoms to worship from home and to consult with your healthcare provider to ensure you are engaging in best practices regarding masking, distancing, and receiving vaccines/boosters, particularly if you or someone you live with have health concerns.

Seeking Pageant Director Understudy

After close to a decade serving as director and assistant director of our annual Christmas Pageant, Christie Reese and Heather Collins are looking to pass the baton. They plan to organize the 2026 pageant and would love to have a couple of understudies work with them this year with the intention of picking up the reins next year.

Directing the pageant includes recruiting church members and friends for the roles, working with the church music staff to coordinate the music for the service, tweaking the script if need be, recruiting costume managers, and running the rehearsal the weekend of the pageant. It's a fun, rewarding way to offer your time, and is one of the highlights of the church year.

Serving Christ . . . Loving Each . . . Affirming All

**World Communion Sunday
Heifer Sunday**

October 4, 2026

10:00 a.m.

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

(*) invites all who are able to stand

PRELUDE:

"Cradle Song"

Walter Spinney

With music and silence we begin worship, praying quietly and opening our hearts to God.

THE LIFE OF OUR COMMUNITY

Welcome! Please share Announcements, Ministry Opportunities, Joys and Concerns.

PRAISING OUR GOD

THE BOND OF UNION (in unison)

Giving our all as we have been given all...

We accept the religion of love and service which Jesus lived and taught, and declare it our purpose to strive to do the will of God, and to make the Christ Spirit dominant in our lives and in all human relations.

*GATHERING PRAYER: (in unison)

God of all creation and God of every nation, we gather today around your table, grateful for the abundance of your love and mindful of the abundance with which you have blessed us. On this World Communion Sunday, remind us that the table of Christ is wider than any one congregation, denomination, nation, language, or culture.

And as we celebrate our Heifer Living Gift Market, open our eyes to the ways your abundance can become someone else's possibility: a goat that provides milk, a flock of chicks that provides food and income, a beehive that sustains a family, a tree that bears fruit for years to come. Gather us, Holy God, into one community of faith and one human family. May the bread we share, the gifts we offer, and the love we practice remind us that there is enough when we learn to share what we have. Amen.

*** PRAYER OF CONFESSION: (in unison)**

Generous God, you have given us a world overflowing with beauty and possibility, yet we confess that we do not always live as though your abundance is meant to be shared. Too often, we measure our lives by what we possess rather than by what we can give. Forgive us for the ways we have treated your creation as something to consume rather than something entrusted to our care. Forgive us when we fail to notice the people whose lives are connected to the things we buy, use, and discard. Forgive us when fear convinces us that there will not be enough, and we hold tightly to what could become a blessing in someone else's hands.

Open our hearts to a different way of living. Give us wisdom to make choices with greater care, courage to share what we have, and imagination to see the connections that bind us to one another and to all creation. Teach us to trust that your abundance is greater than our scarcity, and that your love is always calling us toward a more generous world. We pray in the name of Jesus, who taught us to pray for our daily bread and then taught us to share it. Amen.

*** ASSURANCE OF PARDON: (responsive)**

One: Hear the good news: God's grace is a gift freely given, again and again. In Jesus Christ, we are reminded that there is always a way back toward love, toward justice, toward one another, and toward the life God intends for all creation.

All: **So let us proclaim this good news to one another: You are forgiven. You are beloved. You are not defined by your failures, but called forward by grace. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

*** PASSING THE PEACE OF JESUS CHRIST**

*** HYMN NO. 21:**

"God Reigns o'er All the Earth"
(see page 6)

TERRA BEATA
The New Century Hymnal

PROCLAIMING GOD'S GOOD NEWS

HOLY SCRIPTURE:

Isaiah 58:6-12

p. 688

CHILDREN'S MOMENTS

Children are invited to gather on the chancel steps and bring their offering.

Following Children's Moments, all children are welcome to remain in worship.

Additionally, parents are welcome to accompany their children to our "playground" in the south transept to play and pray quietly or to drop them off downstairs to play in the nursery with our paid nursery staff. Activity bags with crayons, etc. are available from an usher.

SPECIAL MUSIC:

"No Other People's Children"

Elizabeth Alexander

HOLY GOSPEL:

Luke 14:7-14

p. 77

SERMON:

Rev. Bridget Flad Daniels

RESPONDING TO GOD'S GOOD NEWS

HYMN NO. 347:

"Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ"

LINSTEAD

(see page 7)

The New Century Hymnal

THE OFFERING

Offertory:

"Be Still and Know"

arr. Lloyd Larson

*Praise Response

"Imela"

traditional Nigerian

I - me - la, i - me - la, i - me - la, O - ka - ka.

I - me - la, Chi - ne - ke. I - me - la On - y'o - ma.

Translation

Thank you, great God.
Thank you because you are good.

Pronunciation Guide:

ee-meh-lah Oh-kah-kah
ee-meh-lah Chee-neh-keh
ee-meh-lah Ohn-yoh-mah

CELEBRATING COMMUNION

THE INVITATION

One. The table of bread and wine is now to be made ready. Come to this table, you who have much faith and you who would like to have more;

All. **You who have been here often and you who have not been for a long time, if ever.**

One. You who have tried to follow Jesus, and you who have fallen short.

All. **Come, all who seek to follow Christ's way. It is Christ who offers to encounter us here.**

THE COMMUNION PRAYER

One. The Lord be with you.

All. **And also with you.**

One. Lift up your hearts!

All. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

One. Let us give thanks to God Most High.

All. **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

CONGREGATIONAL SANCTUS:

"Santo, Santo, Santo"

anonymous, Argentina

¡San - to, san - to, san - to, mi cor - a - zón te a - do - ra! Mi
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, my heart, my heart a - dores you! My

cor - a - zón te sa - be de-cir: san - to e - res Dios.
heart is glad to say the words: you are ho - ly, God.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

Communion servers will pass trays of bread, red wine, and white grape juice through the pews. Please let an usher know if you would prefer to commune with the prepackaged Communion elements, and they will bring one to you. Please hold the bread and cup until all are served so that we may commune together. Gluten-free bread is in the paper cup in the center of the tray.

The host at this table is Jesus Christ. In Christ's name and spirit, we invite all to partake of God's grace. Children may participate according to their parents' wishes.

PRAYERS OF CONSECRATION, OF THE PEOPLE, AND OF OUR LORD

Please join us in praying the Lord's Prayer in these words or a translation meaningful to you.

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

PRAYER THANKSGIVING (in unison)

Gracious God, we give you thanks for this bread and this cup, for the nourishment they provide and for the reminder that we are never alone at your table. Today we have shared in a meal that reaches far beyond this room. We have remembered sisters and brothers around the world who gather at tables like this one, speaking different languages, singing different songs, carrying different stories, yet all receiving the same grace and all belonging to the same human family.

Now we pray that you send us from this table grateful for what we have received and ready to share what we have been given. Through Christ, our brother, our teacher, and our host, we pray. Amen.

SENT INTO ALL THE WORLD

*CLOSING HYMN: *"There Is More Love Somewhere"* African American hymn
(see page 8)

*THE BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE: *"Go Make of All Disciples"* Mark Weston

Thanks to all who helped lead today's service including our reader, **Jeff Gibson**, and **Wendy Woodward** who offered our Children Moments.

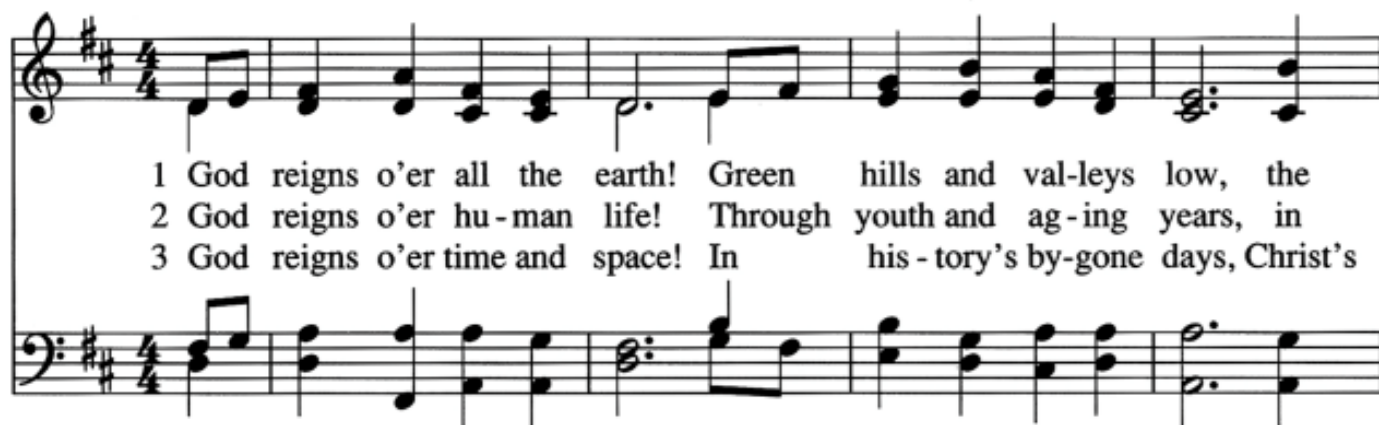
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God Reigns o'er All the Earth

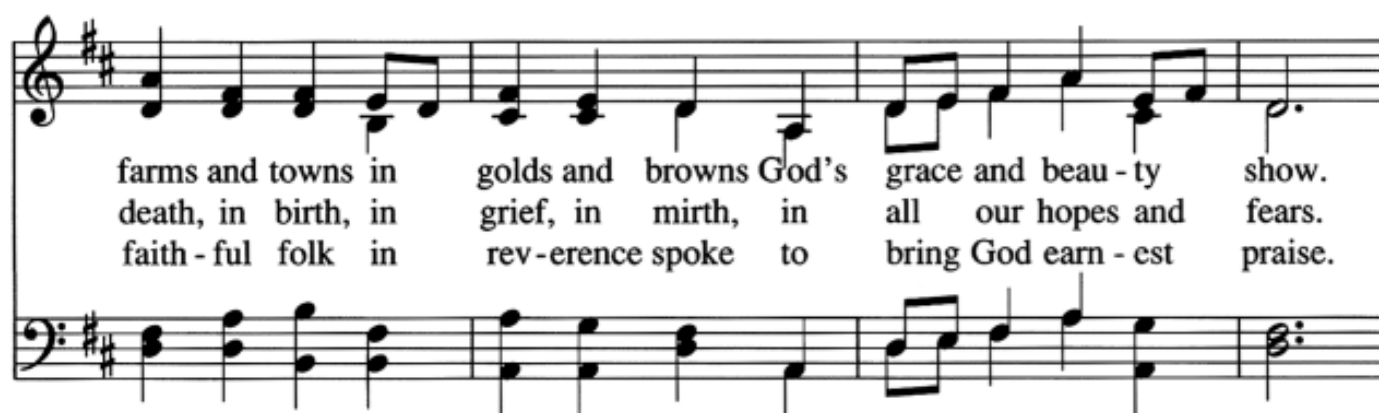
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Isa. 52:7-10

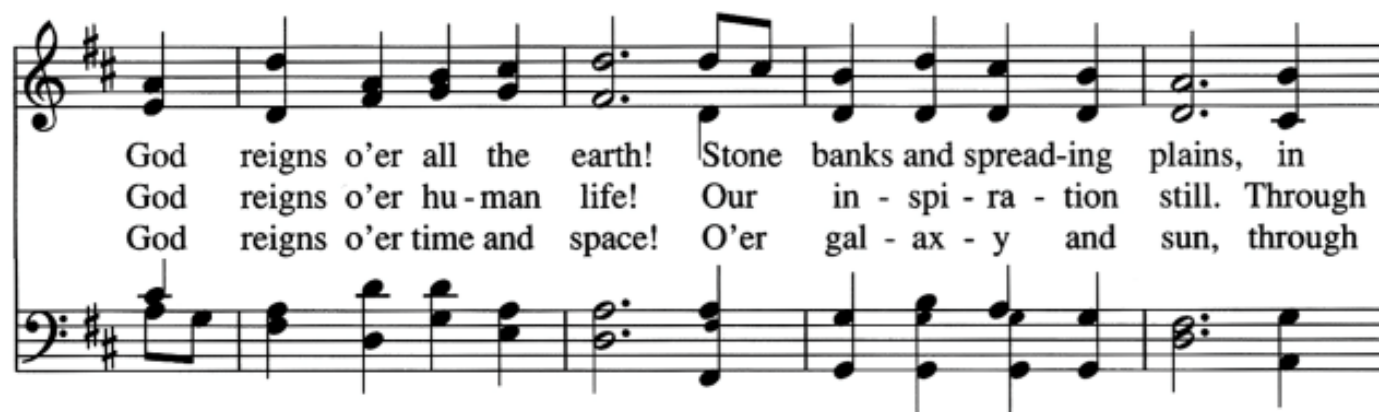
Jane Parker Huber, 1981 Tune: TERRA BEATA S.M.D. Traditional English melody Adapt. Franklin L. Sheppard, 1915



1 God reigns o'er all the earth! Green hills and val-leys low, the
2 God reigns o'er hu-man life! Through youth and ag-ing years, in
3 God reigns o'er time and space! In his-tory's by-gone days, Christ's



farms and towns in golds and browns God's grace and beau-ty show.
death, in birth, in grief, in mirth, in all our hopes and fears.
faith-ful folk in rev-erence spoke to bring God earn-est praise.



God reigns o'er all the earth! Stone banks and spread-ing plains, in
God reigns o'er hu-man life! Our in-spi-ra-tion still. Through
God reigns o'er time and space! O'er gal-ax-y and sun, through



rain-bow hues— reds, yel-lows, blues— of streams and coun-try lanes.
all our schemes, in all our dreams, we see God's reign-ing will.
time-less years the cos-mos hears the heaven-ly mu-sic run.

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ

Fred Kaan, 1975; alt.

C F G Dm G C G

1 Let us tal - ents and tongues em-ploy, reach-ing out with a shout of joy:
 2 Christ is a - ble to make us one, at his ta - ble he set the tone,
 3 Je - sus calls us in, sends us out bear - ing fruit in a world of doubt,

C F G Dm7 C G C

bread is bro - ken, the wine is poured, Christ is spo - ken and seen and heard.
 teach-ing peo - ple to live to bless, love in word and in deed ex - press.
 gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Im-man - u - el) ev - ery-where!

Refrain (first time p, second time f)

C C7 F Dm G C F C

Je-sus lives a-gain, earth can breathe a-gain, pass the Word a-round: loaves a-bound!

There Is More Love Somewhere

♩ = 63



1. There is more love some - where. There is
2. There is more hope some - where. There is
3. There is more peace some - where. There is
4. There is more joy some - where. There is



more love some - where. I'm gon-na keep on 'til I
 more hope some - where. I'm gon-na keep on 'til I
 more peace some - where. I'm gon-na keep on 'til I
 more joy some - where. I'm gon-na keep on 'til I



find it. There is more love some - where.
 find it. There is more hope some - where.
 find it. There is more peace some - where.
 find it. There is more joy some - where.

Words & music: African American hymn

BIKO
6.6.9.6.

JOIN US FOR A

Grace & Gratitude Gathering

A casual evening of music, food, fun and
fellowship to benefit EPH!



Thursday, November 5th
5pm-8pm • FREE entry

Stadium View – Traditions Event Hall
1963 Holmgren Way, Green Bay



Emceed by
Jyll Everman from
Fox 11 Living



**LIVE Musical
Entertainment
by Jim Campbell**

SOUP & BAKE SALE • CASH BAR
BASKET RAFFLES • 50/50 RAFFLE



*All money raised from the items
above will go directly to EPH.*

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Julie Harder, M.D., trained as a Gottman Institute Leader,
presents the Free Online Workshop:

FREE ONLINE WORKSHOP

The Seven Principles

Couples Workshop

BASED ON
NEW YORK TIMES
BESTSELLER
OVER A MILLION
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Are you in a committed relationship,
or considering marriage?



Is your relationship OK, but you'd like
to make it even happier?



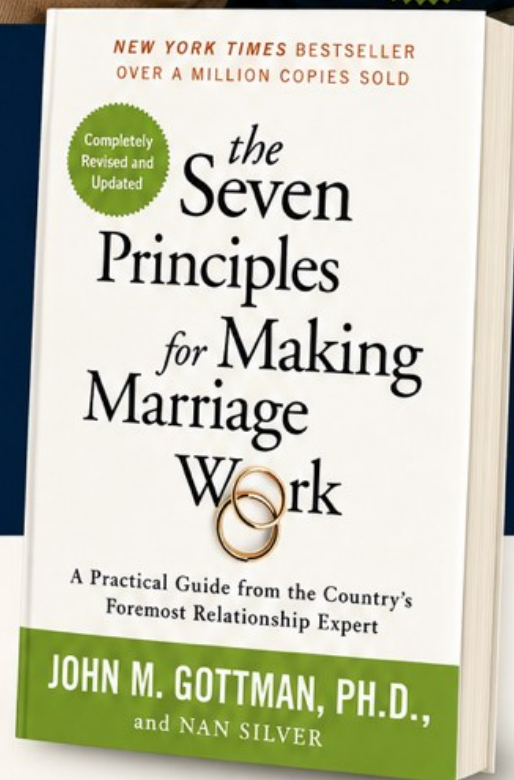
Are you arguing in circles about
the same issues?



Would you like evidence-based
strategies for relationship success?

Dr. John Gottman observed thousands of couples over forty years, analyzing their interactions, then following them for years to see which couples stayed happily together and which split up.

From this data Dr. Gottman developed proven strategies to help couples succeed.



WHEN?
Saturdays,
October 17 & 31 and
November 7 & 14
12–3:15 pm EST



FREE!
+ \$55+ shipping
for the course
materials.



SIGNUP CLOSES
October 1st



Email Dr. Julie Harder at
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STRONGER CONNECTION. HEALTHIER RELATIONSHIP. A BETTER FUTURE—TOGETHER.

Build the relationship you both deserve. We all can love better.